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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/872,783 | 06/01/2001 | Vincent Liu | GIC-616 | 1237 |

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MONROE, CT 06468

| EXAMINER |
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LE, VU

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2613

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/872,783

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL

Examiner

Vu Le

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 18-23, 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16, 17, 24 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/01, 12/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent; or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English.

2. Claims 1-15, 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Radha et al, US 6,806,909.

Re claim 1, Radha discloses a method for splicing a second compressed video transport stream into a first compressed video transport stream (figs. 7a-7e), comprising:

locating an intracoded frame (I-frame) of the second transport stream at the beginning of a splicing operation (col. 15, line 24-27, 56-58); storing the I-frame once located together with subsequent frames of the second transport stream into a temporary storage buffer (col. 16, line 4-12); searching said first transport stream for a suitable insertion point therein (fig. 7C: step 125); and adjusting a time base of at least one of the first and second transport streams to force continuity between the transport streams at said insertion point and thereafter (col. 16, line 12-18).

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Re claim 2, a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein: said adjusting step adjusts a program clock reference (PCR) of said second transport stream to match a PCR of said first transport stream. (See col. 16, line 12-18, also col. 9, line 49-64).

Re claims 3-4, the limitations have been analyzed and rejected w/r to claims 1-2.

Re claim 5, a method in accordance with claim 2, wherein said adjusting step adds an offset to the PCR of said second transport stream, said offset being representative of a difference in time between the PCRs of the first and second transport streams. (See col. 15, line 53-67).

Re claims 6-15, the limitations have been analyzed and rejected w/r to claims 1-2.

Claims 20-23 have been analyzed and rejected w/r to claims 1-15. Radha discloses also an apparatus (figs. 8-12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 18-19, 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Radha et al as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Fox et al, US 6,181,383.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various

claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Re claims 18-19, 26-27, Rahda discloses maintaining a desired output bit rate for protection from an underflow or overflow of a video buffer verifier (col. 9, line 45-47), but fails to disclose providing the spliced transport stream to a transcoder which maintains a desired output bit rate for the spliced stream. However, Fox discloses that transcoders may be used in splicing operation (col. 3, line 55-60).

Therefore, the combined teaching of Rahda and Fox as a whole would have obviate providing a transcoder for splicing operation for the benefit of scalable coding through bit rate adjustment.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 16-17, 24-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record fail to anticipate or obviate the following limitations as claimed:

As recited in claims 16 and 24, "wherein: said insertion point follows a Group of Pictures (GOP) or a sub-GOP in said first transport stream; and a most recent anchor frame of

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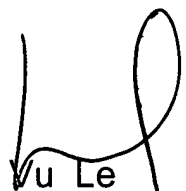
the first transport stream at the end of said GOP or sub-GOP is repeated until the insertion point occurs".

Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vu Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-7332. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. Customer Service can be reached at (571) 272-2600. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-7332.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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